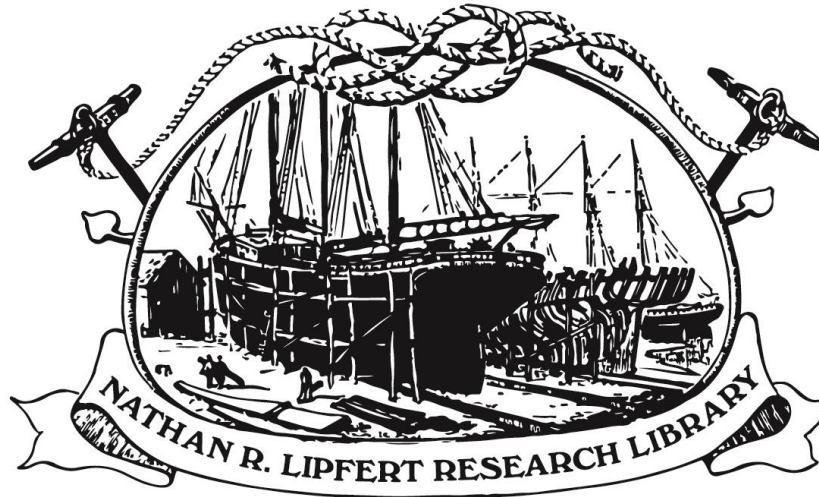


Maine Maritime Museum Library
243 Washington Street
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**Inventory for
Manuscript Collection
MS - 336**

Captain Josiah Wotton Papers

1843-1861

by
Elisabeth Meier
February 2020

½ box
0.2 linear feet
Accession no. 99.65

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Abstract

Wotton, Josiah

Captain Josiah Wotton Papers

MS-336

1843-1861

½ box

Sea captain from Friendship, Maine.

This collection contains accounts and correspondence from Captain Josiah Wotton's seafaring career. The bulk consists of records from the Waldoboro bark *James Cook*, which Wotton sailed in a variety of transatlantic trades. There are also crew accounts from the brigs *Matamoras* and *Thomas & Edward*, as well as some personal material and probate records for Wotton's estate.

In English.

Museum Purchase

Accession No. 99.65

Finding aid available in repository and online, folder level control.

Preferred Citation: Captain Josiah Wotton Papers (MS-336). Maine Maritime Museum

Added entries—persons:

Wotton, Josiah (1816-1858)

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):

Blanchard, Sherman & Co. (Boston, Ma.)

James Cook (bark)

Matamoras (brig)

Thomas & Edward (brig)

Added entries—key terms:

Harbors—port charges

Merchant seamen

Sailors

Salt trade

Ship captains

Ships—equipment and supplies

Wages

Added entries—places:

Friendship (Me.)

Acquisition

This collection was purchased from Charles Apfelbaum in 1999.

Charles Apfelbaum; Purchase; 1999; 1999.065

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions on this collection.

Physical Condition

The papers are mostly in good condition. Some have light stains, tears, mouse damage, or other signs of wear. All are legible.

Related Materials

MS-407 and PC-191 have material from other branches of the Wotton family of Friendship, but have no direct overlap with the material here.

Historical Note

Josiah Wotton (1816-1858) was a sea captain from Friendship, Maine. He made his career commanding vessels built in the Waldoboro area, often working with shipbuilder and merchant James Cook. He commanded the brig *Thomas & Edward* in the coasting trade, then the brig *Matamoras* in the West Indies trade. His last command was the bark *James Cook*, owned by James Cook and managed by the Boston firm Blanchard, Sherman & Co. Wotton sailed the *James Cook* in a variety of transatlantic routes, carrying mixed cargoes to Europe, South America, the West Indies, New Orleans, New York, and Boston.

Josiah Wotton married Nancy Cook (1824-1911), daughter of Zenas and Lydia (Bradford) Cook, in 1843. They had one daughter, Harriet, born in 1847.

Scope and Content Note

The bulk of this collection consists of records from vessels commanded by Josiah Wotton in the 1840s and 1850s. Most of these are from the bark *James Cook*, including bills for expenses in American, European, and Caribbean ports and summary statements giving an overview of the bark's finances. There are also records from the brigs *Matamoras* and *Thomas & Edward*. These principally consist of receipts for wages paid to crewmembers.

The collection also contains correspondence, much of it between Wotton and business associates like James Cook and Blanchard, Sherman & Co., about shipping and maritime trade. There are some domestic accounts from Josiah Wotton, and documents, including probate inventories, related to the settlement of his estate.

This collection also includes some material without a clear connection to Josiah Wotton. These include a seamen's protection certificate for John F. Paine, of Providence, Rhode Island, and a few bills for John Davis and others of Thomaston, Maine.

Box and Folder List

Box	Folder	
1	1	Correspondence, incoming, general, 1852-1858
	2	incoming, Blanchard, Sherman & Co., 1852-1858
	3	outgoing, general, 1852-1853
		Accounts:
		<i>James Cook</i> (bark)
	4	Accounts, summary, with Blanchard, Sherman & Co.
	5	with Josiah Wotton
	6	Accounts, general, Boston, November 1851, March 1852
	7	Santiago de Cuba, May 1852
		Trieste, July 1852
	8	Livorno, August-September 1852
	9	New York, December 1852-January 1853
	10	New Orleans, February 1853
		Boston, March-April 1853
	11	Antwerp, May-June 1853
		Cadiz, July 1853
	12	Boston, September 1853
		Rio de Janeiro, December 1853
	13	Boston, May 1854, September 1854, and undated
	14	Charter Parties, 1852-1853
	15	Bills of Lading,
	16	Crew
		<i>Matamoras</i> (brig)
	17	Accounts
	18	Crew accounts, bound, 1847-1849
	19	<i>Thomas & Edward</i> (brig), 1844
	20	Unidentified vessels
	21	Personal, 1843-1858
	22	Estate of Josiah Wotton, 1858-1861
	23	Seamen's protection, John F. Paine
	24	Miscellaneous papers
	25	Blank forms